



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



November 24, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT OVERTIME REPORT BACK

This correspondence is in response to your Board's March 16, 2010, request for a bi-weekly status report on the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's (Department) overtime curtailment efforts and its impact on Department operations.

The Department's overtime expenditures for the current period, from October 1, 2010, through October 15, 2010, totaled \$1.9 million. Seventy-one percent of this expenditure is reimbursable through contracts, grants, or other revenue sources. Factoring out the reimbursable hours reduces the Department's actual monetary expenditure for overtime to \$561,191.

During the final two weeks of October 2010, the Cadre of Administrative Reserve Personnel (CARP) program filled 2,634 positions in lieu of operating with a reduced line staff or expending overtime. This brings the total number of CARP shifts worked between March 1 and October 31, 2010, to 13,980.

CARP personnel are assigned to the majority of the Department's administrative, investigative, and training units. To fulfill their CARP obligations, these employees complete their regular duties 32 hours per week, and use the remaining 8 hours of their work week to fill line positions requiring 24-hour staffing or other mandatory 40-hour posts, such as court bailiffs. CARP has nearly eliminated the need to use overtime funds to fill vacant positions. The CARP program, although very successful in reducing overtime, has caused ever increasing backlogs, delays, and inefficiencies among the participating units.

A Tradition of Service

The following are operational impacts which occurred due to CARP and the curtailment of overtime between October 16 and October 31, 2010.

- All divisions report a decrease in staff supervision as supervisors CARP into lower level positions and supervisor vacancies are left unfilled.
- All Field Operations Regions (FOR) report an increase in the number of open cases assigned to station detective bureaus. Station investigators are fulfilling their CARP obligations and, as a result, have less time available to investigate and close cases. The number of open cases assigned to station detective bureaus stood at 6,055 on February 28, 2010. That number grew to 10,614 by October 31, 2010, an increase of 75 percent.
- In addition to the loss of investigative time, all FORs are reporting a reduction in the number of search warrants served, and probation and parole compliance checks conducted since the overtime curtailment began. For example in 2009, Industry Sheriff's Station (IDT) served 51 search warrants, an average of 4 per month. The number of warrants served by IDT between January 1 and October 31, 2010, was 11, an average of only 1 warrant served per month. IDT conducted an average of 2 probation searches per month in 2009. That average decreased by 75 percent in 2010. While many factors, including a decrease in criminal activity, may contribute to the number of searches conducted, the lack of available personnel needed to form search teams and reduced investigative efficiency as a result of CARP efforts have been cited by investigating units as the primary reasons for the current reductions.
- Facilities Services Bureau (FSB) reports a decrease in preventative and regularly scheduled building maintenance. Emergency or high priority repairs are taking precedence over routine maintenance and cosmetic repairs. Work orders are becoming back-logged as overtime restrictions have curtailed FSB's ability to work after hours. These curtailments are causing a reduction in the quality of the working environment for our employees and the living environment of our inmate population. Additionally, the reduction in preventative maintenance will likely increase future repair and replacement costs.
- Communications and Fleet Management Bureau (CFMB) reports delays in many of its ongoing projects due to CARP obligations. One critical project impacted was the upgrade of mobile digital terminals in patrol cars to new more efficient mobile digital computers (MDC). Impacts to the MDC project included, the inability to address design issues related to the pilot vehicle, delays in the inventory of contract city owned vehicles which will require MDCs, delays in the review and approval of site surveys regarding the placement of wireless access points, delays in the review of technical specifications required for the cellular carrier procurement process, and the delayed completion of the MDC web portal. The timely completion of the MDC project is essential to patrol operations as the

current system has reached the end of its life span and is becoming increasingly difficult to repair.

- Custody Division (Custody) reports that prior to its budget reduction efforts, male misdemeanor offenders were serving approximately 80 percent of their jail sentences. To achieve the required budgetary and staffing curtailments, Custody has closed 4,481 jail beds since January 2010. This resulted in a reduction in the percentage of time served from 80 to 20 percent.
- Scientific Services Division continued to experience an increased backlog of narcotics cases awaiting analysis. The average backlog last year was 256 cases. The current backlog of cases awaiting analysis is 816, an increase of 219 percent. This increase is due to the curtailment of overtime for narcotics examiners, coupled with a large increase in case submissions from recent law enforcement intervention at medical marijuana dispensaries.
- Aero Bureau reports that during the last two weeks of October 2010, 369 requests for air support from patrol units went unanswered because overtime was not used to augment its flight operations. The requests which were not responded to include: 52 robbery calls, 101 burglary calls, 23 requests for assistance or back-up by deputies, 19 reports of a man with a gun or knife, 28 calls related to stolen vehicles, 17 assaults with a deadly weapon, 21 disturbances, 33 shots fired calls, 26 calls regarding prowlers or suspicious persons, 13 reports of domestic violence, 8 missing persons, 4 reports of vandalism, 5 pursuits, 1 kidnapping, 1 mentally ill person, 4 requests to check an area not visible from the ground, 3 reports of grand theft, 1 hit and run, 1 report of trespassing, 3 forgeries, 1 parolee at large, 1 shooting at an inhabited dwelling, and 3 carjackings.

The Department continues to employ innovative methods to cut \$128 million from its budget by June 30, 2011, while mitigating the impact of the curtailment on our communities. These efforts have been extremely successful in moving the Department toward its budgetary goals, however, they have resulted in a continued marked decrease in the efficiency of Departmental operations, as we complete the 9th month of this 16-month curtailment. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Division Director Victor Rampulla, Administrative Services Division, at (323) 526-5357.

Sincerely,



LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF